

**Economic Development Committee**  
**January 19, 2021 - Final**

**Present: Ron Rzasa (Chair), Julianna Dodson, John Pieper, Robert Korb, Judy Idelkope (Advisor)**  
**Fran Shippee (BOS Representative), Faith Mba**

**Guests: Jeff Scott & Kate Chase**

**Meeting called to order: 5:05 PM via Zoom.**

*COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically, etc.*

**Presiding: Ron Rzasa**

**Secretary Report:**

**Jan 7, 2021 Minutes**

John 1st, Rob 2nd: Unanimously accepted as written.

**Old Business**

1. **Senior Housing:** The BOS has placed senior housing on their Jan 29th agenda. The sample MOU sent to the EDC will be forwarded onto the BOS. SWC's Keith Thibault will be invited to give the BOS MOU guidance
2. **Business Listings on Website:** Julianna and Antje have been able to place the business listings on the website. They were not able to load the spread sheet correctly using Wix. However, they were able to load it using Caspio. But the listings can only be accessed via a search engine. It would cost \$200 per month to upgrade Caspio to reflect all the desired features.
  - a. Rob investigated Antrum and Swanzey's town websites. Antrum was not available. Swanzey spoke highly of their website builder Revize. It is app based and quite easy to load spread sheets onto. Their business listings appear in the EDC's desired format. Swanzey spent about \$9,000 on their town website upgrade. Rob also investigated CivicPlus which is a scaled down version of Revize with only 7-8 modules.
  - b. Fran commented that the BOS is in the process of looking to revise the town website and had investigated both Revize and CivicPlus. The BOS would like a list of website issues to address. The EDC asked that a new town website have the capacity to post and revise the business listings through the EDC website. This would be an efficient way of keeping them up to date.
  - c. Julianna is in the process of creating a Resource page on the EDC website. Once completed it would enable a visitor to link to state, regional, and national business organizations.
3. **Business to Business Virtual Meeting on Jan. 28:** Kate Chase sent out 165 postcards and have received RSVP from 16. For a first-time event, the committee was pleased with the response. Julianna went over the well thought out agenda. The meeting should last 60-75 minutes. It will consist of an introduction from the EDC and participating members, networking session, polling survey via zoom, and end with a Thank you. The EDC e-mail will be provided for post meeting comments. Kate and Julianna should be able to personally distribute the goodie bags.
4. **Hannah Grimes:** Julianna, Jeff, and Ron met with Sara Powell, Program Director of Hannah Grimes to discuss how the organization can assist EDC's projects. She will attend the Business-to-Business event and give a short presentation. Plus, she recommended Randall Walter, AIA, to aid the Marsh House Project.

5. **Signage Petition:** Its journey continues. The BOS sent the amended petition to the Planning Board which reviewed it. The Planning Board sent it back to the BOS for modification. John and Gary Winn have been working on the modifications and will send it back to the BOS.
6. **ECD Officer Election for 2021:** The following slate was unanimously approved.
  - Chairman: Ron Rzasa
  - Vice-Chair: Julianna Dodson
  - Secretary: John Pieper (duties are mainly budgetary)

**New Business:**

1. **Industrial Park:** There are rumors of issues. To show goodwill and be proactive, Rob will contact the businesses and diplomatically ask if they are having any problems. If so, these will be passed onto the BOS.
2. **Enchanted Café:** Because the EDC has received questions about the property, Jeff Scott will investigate its specifications. The listing can be found:  
<https://realtyvermont.com/listing/4457555/22-glebe-road-chesterfield-nh-03462/>
3. **Bradford Machine Shop:** Fran will investigate how or if their project is progressing.
4. **Next Meeting:** Due to town meeting scheduling conflicts, the next meeting will not be held in two weeks on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>. But instead:

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 11, 2021**  
**5Pm**  
**Via Zoom**

Meeting Adjourned at 5:58PM

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Donna Roscoe, Secretary  
January 21, 2021